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DAYTON, O .- J. V. Wilkie, 39 South Jefferson

Besides being one of the greatest railroad centers of the country and accessible from all directions, this city is in the midst o a fine horsebreeding section. There is no better point in the country for the establishment of an annual horse show.

President Eliot, of Harvard University. has had another outbreak of pessimism in which he denounces pretty much everything American that he has not denounced and find something to approve.

It is said the state game commissioner will ask the next Legislature to strengthen the law and increase the appropriation for the protection of fish and game birds. Valuable results have been accomplished under the law as it now stands, but if it can be bettered it should be done.

That was a quick case of justice in Texas where a negro was hanged in two hours after he had pleaded guilty and been convicted of a murder committed only a few days before, but it was done in accordance with law. There can be no objection to the rapidity with which justice moves if legal forms are observed.

Big Tim Sullivan, of New York, who has ominated to the next House over one Belmonts, is ridiculed because he said that he "was better fitted to represent that district in Washington than Daniel Webster if he should come back." He is right; Webster could not have represented the ignorance of the slums of New York | furnishes what may be called a public so well as can one of their kind

After voting three times against accepting a temporary 25 per cent. reduction wages the tin workers of Anderson have finally reconsidered their former action and decided to accept the reduction. It is done in order, as the employers aver, to enable them to secure certain large orders against the foreign manufacturers and enable them to keep their mills running full time. The action of the workmen is generous, and it is hoped they may get their reward.

The book reviewer of a London paper thinks "it is a pity that American writers of romance are confined at the most to two periods of their own history-namely, the war of rebellion and the war of secession." American readers of this comment are likely to think for a moment that the English writer has very little knowledge about our wars, but it will presently dawn upo them that by "war of the rebellion" our revolutionary war is meant. It all depends upon the point of view.

An Englishman named John Foster Fraser-please do not skip the middle namehas written a book about the United States, where he spent a few weeks, in which he roundly abuses Chicago, which he covered in three days. His book is being published as a serial in a provincial English newspaper, and, judging from extracts, it is calculated to add to the gayety of American readers. Mr. John Foster Fraserplease do not skip the middle name-is evidently more at home in the town of Leeds. England, than he was in Chicago.

The Women Teachers' Association of Philadelphia is urgently appealing to the City Board of Education to amend the bylaws of the board so as to permit women to become supervising principals of schools containing boys in grammar grades. As yet the owlish body is not convinced that such a tremendous innovation is safe. What oldfogles some of those down-Easters are, to be sure! They ought to come out West where women have held the office in question for years with the greatest success and acceptability, and learn a thing or two.

The statements of Superintendent Kendall relative to the increase of school population furnish the best evidence of the rapid growth of the schools of the city the past two years. If Indianapolis was a boastful city this evidence of rapidly increasing population would be heralded abroad. but we are a people so busy with our own affairs that we do not fully realize the extent of the city's growth since 1900. Mr. Kendali shows that this growth brings a few burdens to offset a part of the many advantages.

Mr. Curtis, of the Chicago Record-Herald. has been talking with Mr. Armour about of beef. He was told by the packer that scarcity of cattle is the leading cause and that the demand of working people for a better quality of meat than the second. During the hard times the laboring classes got along with as little

earning good wages and had plenty of work they are buying strioin and porterhouse steaks and the more expensive cuts. The chief reason of high prices is that the supply of live stock has not increased in proportion with the population. Those who are looking for the causes of the high price of meats discovered those above named some time since, but it suited class of newspapers to attribute the cause to the packers entirely, while the figures showed that they made less money when prices were high than they did when they

> GOOD OUT OF EVIL. Perhaps the most important of the les-

sons which may be found in the closing of the great strike is the potency of public opinion in this country when there is a cause to call it forth. It was the fact that the American people demanded that the strike come to an end which influenced both sides to the disastrous controversy to consider a compromise. When Governor Odell said to one of the operators, "I represent the opinions and desires of 7,000,000 of people," he presented a fact that seemed not to have been considered before. While public sentiment was most hostile to the mine operators for several weeks, it would have been equally hostile to the miners had they refused arbitration. No law which could be devised could have brought the strike to an end under so favorable circumstances as it has been ended; the law's delay would have prevented so prompt an adjustment as has been made since the people earnestly demanded it, and no adjustment by statute could have resulted in a compromise. We hear much of "the initiative and referendum" in legislation, but no expression of a public conviction through the ballot box can be so effective as the will of the people expressed outside the forms of law when united and in earnest. Great reforms may be assisted by law, but law feeble when not backed by powerful popube enacted the President could not have been so potential as he became when was backed by public sentiment. Another lesson which the ending of the

strike by reasonable methods should enforce is avoidance of pernicious remedies offered by demagogues and sensationalists. Meetings were held in which men of whom better things should have been expected urged the ignoring of the Constitution and violation of the laws by officers sworn to obey both. The Detroit meeting, with Just for a change he should try its fiery speeches and its demands that the President proceed to open the mines, is recalled to-day as an evidence of how unworthy of public confidence men can make themselves. For the President have interfered as he was urged would have given an example of the most dangerous form of imperialism. If such men were patriotic in their purpose they should be regarded as unsafe and even dangerous; if their purpose were to attract attention to their bold speech in the hope of political preferment, regardless of consequences, by what designation shall they be known if not called enemies to the pub-

lic welfare? Another lesson which the ending of the strike presents is that there must be no more protracted strikes affecting the welfare of millions of people and putting law and order in jeopardy. If not in the form of legislative act, then by the potent influence of enlightened and humane public opinion, a system of conciliation and arbitration must be put in force. The third party in all strikes in an industry which necessity of millions-the consumers, the most numerous and the greatest sufferers from a suspension of the supply-must have a voice in preventing protracted struggles for the mastery between the two

forces of production. The outcome of the strike should put an the common accusation that the mass of wage-earners receive no consideration at the hands of those in official authority when there are conflicts tween corporate capital and employes. President Roosevelt made himself a mediator upon the basis that the strike must be settled by a compromise which should insure to the miners such consideration as a board of arbitration shall declare to be just. The American people demanded for the miners a hearing before a tribunal out because they belong to the human family. Mitchell, Gompers and Sargent, representatives of labor, received as much consideration as did the representatives of capital, because their conduct made it possible.

HOMICIDAL MANIA.

The shooting of a woman by her husband, followed by his suicide, has become so common a crime as to excite but a passing horror. At least half a dozen such terday's Journal as taking place near Macase from either far or near is not recorded. But the killing of two New York business men by a third, all of them of high professional and social standing, is a \$18,341,750 and to employers \$9,431,299. A gennew development of this all-too-prevalent | eral review of the growth of strikes durhomicidal mania, and one to cause a serious inquiry as to the influences leading to situation suggests the inquiry, where such tragedies. In some instances it is it going to end? stated that the perpetrator of the deed had been suffering from melancholia. In such event this condition should have served as due warning to intelligent friends and associates, for suicidal and homicidal tendencies are almost invariable accompaniments of this mental ailment. Often the family is ally given away. This was due partly to aware of this tendency, but from mistaken kindness or undue sensitiveness does not take the proper means to protect itselfthat of placing the victim of the disease in a sanatorium. Frequently the murderer works himself up to a savage frenzy through the use of drink or drugs, and since he has often the cunning to conceal his purpose from those who could hinder him, he usually succeeds in fulfilling it. As a rule, however, he has preceded his crime with threats, and it is when these are made that he should be promptly arrested and sent to jail. Putting such a friend under bonds to keep the peace, as is sometimes done, is a useless proceeding.

But the murder of two New York business men by a third, who then killed himself, seems to have been due to neither of the foregoing causes, but rather to an animosity engendered by a business proceeding in which he was discredited by his own | for the franchises they enjoy. A paper read act. No doubt he was insane in a sense: that is, his condition of mind was abnormal to the extent that he was greatly enraged | Rochester, N. Y., showed how little system | Bruce Brown, of the Central Christian

toward the other men; but so far

symptoms that could have led the victims mayors of 135 cities in all parts of to guard themselves against him. He had country of more than 20,000 inhabitants, and evidently been sufficiently calm to plan his he received replies from fifty-three. Out of crime a day in advance, without betraying himself, and the end came without warn-

under an abnormal strain. its balance? Or is it that self-control is how is the innocent public to be protected from the creature who thus runs amuck? These are questions that many business men, likely any day to have dealings with dissatisfied or irritable customers or clients, must have asked themselves when they read of the Wall-street tragedy vesterday.

ABOUT STRIKES IN GENERAL. An attempt to discover the beginning of strikes as a means of reducing grievances or gaining advantages for workingmen would probably lead to the conclusion that in some form or other they are as old as the human race. Ever since there began to be any kind of labor there have been grasping employers, hard conditions, and ambitious or discontented wage-earners, and when these conditions exist there must be friction and protest. Originally, perhaps, the strike was the act of an individual who exercised his right to quit work when he found the wages or other conditions unsatisfactory. Each quitting of work by an individual would lack the element of coercion, and, therefore, could not be called a strike in the modern sense. Nevertheless, as an assertion of individual rights it contained the germ of the modern strike. If the dissatisfied individual could induce several other persons of the same mind to join with him, their joint action would bring a pressure to bear on the employer that might force him to yield Thus, gradually there would arise organization. It is probable that strikes in some primitive form preceded labor unions, and

of making strikes effective. It is not known when labor unions first began to be formed in this country, but there were strikes considerably more than a hundred years ago. The first one of which any record exists was a strike of journeymen bakers in New York city in 1741. In 1810 there occurred in that city a strike of journeymen cord wainers which resulted in some of the strikers being arrested and tried. At the trial one of the lawyers for the defense said:

I have had an opportunity of examining the records of the criminal proceedings of our tribunals for a great number of years back. I have found an information which was preferred in the year 1741 against bread but on certain terms. This indicthowever, concludes contrary to the form of the statutes. And it appears that no judgment was ever rendered upon it.

Another lawyer, of counsel for the prosecution, said the information referred to was against journeymen bakers for a conspiracy not to bake till their wages were raised "On this," he said, "they were tried and convicted before the revolution, but it does not appear that any sentence was ever passed." This reference in 1810 to the journeymen bakers' strike in 1741 fixes the earliest known date of any strike in this country. It is a curious fact that those early strikers were prosecuted under the common law for conspiracy. Between 1795 and 1800 there were three strikes by the journeymen shoemakers of Philadelphia As the industries of the country increased so did strikes, but during the first half of the nineteenth century they were few in number and unimportant compared with those of recent years. In many cases, however, the leaders were arrested, tried and convicted of conspiracy under common law and without any statute on the subject. It is worthy of note that the courts in the early part of the last century went further in asserting the common law doctrine against conspiracies to injure one's private business than they do now. The records also show that wages in those days were very low. In June, 1839, there was a demonstration of several trades in Philadelphia for shorter hours of labor, and the city authorities resolved that "the wages now allowed, 871/2 cents per day, being manifestly too scanty to supply all the wants of the laboring men in the employment of the public, each laboring man in the public employment shall receive as compensation for a day's work of ten In 1839 there was a general strike of employes on the Reading Railroad for an increase from \$1 to \$1.121/2 per day. This strike also included a demand for more whisky, the allowance then being 11/2 pints per day to each man. The rapid industrial development of the country following the civil war was accompanied by corresponding increase in the number of strikes and by the growth of labor unions. The number of strikes in the year 1880 exceeded the total number from the beginning cases have occurred in this city within a | of the century down to that time, and year or two. Another was reported in yes- | since then they have steadily increased. In 1899 there were 1.797 strikes in the rion. Hardly a day goes by that such a United States and in 1900 there were 1,779. In 1899 the loss in wages to employes was \$15,159,965 and the loss of employers was \$7,443,407. In 1900 the loss to employes was

> MUNICIPAL FRANCHISES. . When one considers the great value of many municipal franchises it seems surprising that until within recent years they should have been granted for nothing, actuignorance of their value and partly to loose ideas regarding the true functions of municipal government and of responsibility to the people. Most growing towns were so anxious to add to their evidences of progress that they were willing to give away franchises which ought to have brought them handsome sums. It is believed there is no record of any city having paid a bonus in addition to granting-free franchises to corporations, but even that would hardly have made the old policy more indefensible

> from a business point of view. There has been a great change for the better in recent years, but there is still room for improvement. Valuable franchises are no longer given away, but it is doubtful if any city has ever yet got the full value of one. Many cities get no returns from corporations, except in taxes, and probably none gets a fair equivalent before the American Society of Municipal Improvement at its recent convention in there is in that branch of municipal govern-

this number the following cities receive no compensation for their franchises, viz.; Bayonne, N. J.; Birmingham, Ala.; Bridge-Does It all mean that modern life is so port, Conn.; Charleston, S. C.; Dubuque, wearing upon the nerves that the mind, Ia.; Fitchburg, Mass.; Grand Rapids, Mich. Houston, Tex.; Portland, Me.; Quincy, Ill.; Schenectady, N. Y.: Salem and Somerville, Mass.; St. Joseph, Mo.; Troy, N. Y.; Toin the training of the individual? And ledo, O.; Trenton, N. J., and Wilmington, Del. The only rational explanation of this state of things is that these cities granted franchises for long periods before the practice of requiring compensation for them began, and that the franchises have not yet expired. Probably in some cases they are perpetual and exclusive, thus barring the city from ever correcting the original blunder. As the cities above named are eighteen out of fifty-three which sent replies it is evident there must be many others in the same category. The mayor of Portland, Ore., reported that the city reelved no compensation from street-railways, telegraphs, electric lights and gas companies. This includes all except telephones and perhaps one or two others. The mayor admitted that "the city has been very careless in the matter," and he was certainly right. Seattle has an official inspector of franchises, who wrote that the ncome derived from that source was about \$15,000 a year. The mayor of Elizabeth, N. reported that the principal street-railroad company there had a franchise granted many years ago, under which it paid nothing, but another company, more recently chartered, is required to pave from curb to curb the streets through which its lines run, to keep in repair the pavement between its tracks and for three feet outside the tracks on each side, to sprinkle the streets and remove the snow, and for period of five years to pay \$100 a mile for trackage. It is also required to pay 3 per cent. of its gross receipts for five years succeeding 1905, and for every year succeeding for its trackage. Elizabeth has two telephone companies which supply free service for city offices and departments and pay by their wires, the total mileage to be not less than ten miles. There is a city with good business sense. The plan of requiring percentage payments on gross receipts prevails in quite a number of cities. In Providence. R. I., the street-railway pays 5 per cent. of gross earnings, telephone companies 3 per cent., electric light companies 5 per cent., and gas companies 3 per cent. One advantage of that plan is that the certain bakers for combining not to bake city's revenue increases with the increase of business. Schenectady, N. Y., a city 33,000 population, reports that it receives no compensation from any franchise except the free use of twelve telephones from one of the companies. In Cincinnati street-railways pay a tax of 5 per cent. of gross earnings and an additional license on cars of 1 per cent. of earnings. Cleveland receives no compensation in money from street-railway, telegraph, telephone or electric light franchises. Two gas companies pay 10 per cent. of their gross receipts. St. Paul receives practically nothing for present franchises, but the new city charter, adopted two years ago, provides for a 5 per cent, tax on the gross receipts of all public corporations, after the expiration of present franchises. Rochester, N. Y., receives no compensation from the gas and electric light companies, while the street-railway company pays a tax of \$5 a year on each car and 1 per cent. of its gross earnings. In this city the Central Union Telephone Company pays \$6,000 a year, the New Telephone Company the same amount, and the street-railway company \$30,000 a year. Indianapolis is almost alone in charging a fixed annual payment instead of a percentage on gross receipts. If these annual payments were a fair equivalent for the franchises at the begin-

that have granted perpetual charters for nothing are helpless. A writer in an educational journal recomcondition of schools in all cities, the frequent promotion of pupils in the lower grades. The greatest congestion is almost invariably in the primary grades. The grammar grades, even if crowded at the beginning of the year, gradually thin out, owing to the older students leaving for work, and it often happens that many firstyear children will be on the waiting list while there are many vacant seats in the upper-grade rooms. Every teacher knows that certain pupils are qualified for promotion after three or four months' work in her grade, and are retarded by being held for advancement with the class at the end of six months. The writer in question, who has tested the plan and found it to work well, says that if irregular promotion is not advisable it is perfectly feasible to arrange three periods for promotion, instead of two, which is now the rule in most schools. The ing the last century and of the present suggestion sounds like a practical one and worthy of attention. The complaint of overcrowded schools and insufficient room is heard in nearly every city of the country, and any method of lessening the pressure, even in a slight degree, deserves respectful consideration by the authorities. The educational system should be sufficiently clastic to permit a readjustment for the general benefit.

ning they will be very inadequate long be-

fore the charters expire. It is generally

conceded by those who have made a study

of the subject that the fairest and best

form of charging for franchises is a tax on

gross receipts, and that practice will prob-

ably be universal before the time comes

for this city to grant new charters. Cities

Not long since a ministerial contributor of the most staid and conservative of religious papers boldly advocated sensationalism in the pulpit. "Anything to catch the attention of the people" was his motto, on the principle, of course, of the necessity of catching the hare before it is cooked. When the public was once attracted the means of instilling moral truths could be considered. "My plca," he said, "is for more sensationalism. Let each preacher study his field and determine in what way he best can startle, attract, impress the indifferent about him. Let him advertise as freely and as strikingly as the most successful, upright business man in the place. Let the churches not only permit, but urge their ministers to arouse a church-neglecting community by the use of dramatic and winning methods." Possibly because he had read this article and was acting according to its precepts, possibly of his own original motion, the Rev.

known, there had been no preliminary ment. The writer of the paper wrote to the plan in his pulpit, and, as yesterday's dis- th' of stovepipe patches narrate, has been asked to resign. before you do the startling act, find out

> Dr. Adolph Lorenz is receiving, and deserves, a great deal of praise for the number of gratuitous surgical operations he is performing while on his brief visit to this country, but he is only doing in an unavoidably conspicuous way what the majority of reputable physicians and surgeons do according to their ability and opportunities in the ordinary course of their practice. That is, each one relieves a vast amount of suffering for which he receives and expects no compensation. The physician is worthy of his hire, and in these days when the number of persons ready to impose on him is legion he is obliged to look sharply after his dues in sheer selfprotection. But it is seldom that he refuses aid to a really poverty-stricken sufferer because of the poverty. And if, like Dr. Lorenz, he exacts a big fee from the patient able to pay it is no more than fair. In the end he works out his earnings. Probably most people hope that the re-

> ort that ex-President Cleveland is to entertain President Roosevelt during his visit to Princeton University on the occasion of the installation of the new president is true. There is no good reason why patriotic Democratic ex-President should not entertain a patriotic Republican President, and it is an indication that the bitter personalities which made the leaders of parties personal enemies is passing away. General Harrison took the first steps to banish senseless personal hostility by inviting Mr. Cleveland to dine with him just before his second inauguration. It was not so years ago. John Adams and his son fled the executive mansion before the inauguration of their successors, and Andrew Johnson would not ride with General Grant to his inauguration.

> The Brooklyn School Board is having much difficulty in securing teachers of sewing, dressmaking, millinery, bookkeeping and stenography for the senior classes of their evening schools. This does not necessarily argue that women who understand these arts are scarce, but that the further requirements of a high school education or three years' experience in teaching a course in a professional school are not commonly possessed by the candidates. Possibly the fact that women who know how to make dresses and hats can earn far more money by sticking to their re spective trades than by teaching may have a bearing on the matter also.

The promoters of the horse show, which has just closed, show a great deal of nerve as well as public spirit in their expressed purpose to make the entertainment permanent annual feature. This is the more commendable on their part because, while the first show was a great success in every other respect, it fell short financially on account of bad the erection of a suitable building which could be used for other purposes, and this is what the promoters contemplate doing. If they decide to do so they should receive liberal support.

It is well enough for Washingtonians to do honor to the memory of the late "Boss' Shepherd, and thus in a measure atone for the abuse formerly heaped on him, but a poem addressed to him by George Alfred Townsend, ending with these lines, seems to be rather overdoing it: "Back to Washington return him!

Pater, friend, his great heart bring! In a pyramid inurn him! Gentle, glorious Shepherd King."

"Shepherd King" is a term having associations and a significance that cannot by any stress of imagination be made include the former citizen of Washington. however worthy he may have been.

The following interesting bit of informa ion is taken from the columns of a London paper: "Fauteuils similar to those fitted in theaters are to replace old-fashioned high-backed pews in a Methodist chapel at Leeds, England." Most people are un able to recall any acquaintance with fauteuils outside of the Bertha M. Clay class of novels of their early years. Nor are they likely now to recommend the adoption of the fashion in their own churches until they are quite sure what the article is and how to pronounce its name.

A New York actress getting ready to "star" has, it is announced, been called away from rehearsals to go to West Virginia and settle a strike in a coal mine she owns. This is something really new and ingenious in the way of theatrical advertising. But why does a woman who owns a coal mine care to continue in the always arduous and often athletic work of the

There is nothing really significant in the fact that a Mrs. Palmer figures actively in the row among the managers of the Woman's Exhibition at Madison-square Garden; still, there is a familiar echo about the name that recalls the yet famous Women's Board of Managers of the Columbian Exposition. However, it is another Mrs. Palmer.

The usual appeal to the indifferent voter is, "if you don't register you can't vote." but in New York the law has made the appeal to read "if you do not register your name will be put on the jury list."

S. R. Crockett, the novelist, has just celebrated his forty-second birthday. And to think that he may live forty-two years more and produce a grist of from three to six novels annually!

THE HUMORISTS.

A New Version. Baltimore American. "What luxury is it," asked the teacher, "that

New York Sun.

everybody wants to buy during the months that have an R in their names?" "Coal," answered the little Wise boy, from the foot of the class.

Bad Sale. The Indians had just sold the Island of Man-

hattan for \$20 when chagrin overcame them. "To think!" they exclaimed, "election is coming and votes will be worth \$2 apiece!" Perceiving they had been swindled, they hastily ought Fenimore Cooper to relate their wrongs.

Thoughtful Warning.

Yellow Editor-I see you denounce that last police shake-up story as a lie. New Reporter-Yes, sir.

"Well, I want to caution you that when denouncing any story as a lie you want to be careful that it did not originate with us."

The Stupidity of Luxury.

Detroit Free Press. Landlord-How do you like your new steam

A Narrow Escape.

Catholic Standard. "I believe I can cure you," said the young doctor, "but you must drink no coffee." "I never do drink coffee," said the patient. "Don't interrupt me. As I was saying, you must drink no coffee but purest Mocha. You must drink a little of that every morning."

Further as to Jonah.

Jonah's neighbors refused to believe his story "How could you live," they asked him, "on the inside of a whale for three whole days?" "You'll have to take my word for it," he said, ray picture of the whale." But Jonah and his story have lived through the ages, while his neighbors have been for-

She Wouldn't Tell.

gotten.

Philadelphia Bulletin. She was one of these little bright girls who love to entertain their big sister's beaux. "Sister's going to give me 5 cents," she said. "Is that so?" ventured the young man. ter's real good to you, isn't she?" "Oh, but it is to pay me. She said if I wouldn' tell you what a bad word she said when she saw you coming she'd give me it. So I ain't a-going to. No, siree!"

Uncolonial Dames.

Boston Transcript. Mrs. Pingey-I den't see how you can manage to go to church three times on Sunday. Mrs. Bland-I do it simply by doing no work of any kind on the Sabbath. I think it positively wicked for women to stay home and cook dinners for their husbands on Sunday.

lunch at noon? Mrs. Bland-Oh, dear, no. I always take dinner at Mr. Bland's sister's. She's a splendid cook, and she always tries to do her best on

Mrs. Pingey-I suppose, then, you have a cold

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

Augustus St. Gaudens is said to have nearly finished his statue of Phillips Brooks which is to stand in Boston. The commission was given him in 1893. Of the five living ex-speakers of the House of Representatives Thomas B. Reed is the most prosperous, his income from his law practice amounting to abount \$50,-

000 a year. This story about Mark Twain is now going its second round of the English papers: During Twain's residence in Enghe was taxed in what seemed to him an unjustifiable instance. Accordingly he wrote a friendly protest to the Queen. don't know you," he wrote, "but I've met your son. He was at the head of a procesin the Strand and I was on a 'bus."

While traveling Miss Helen Gould is constantly attended by a man named Tutt, who acts as her bodyguard. One of his special functions is to keep kodak fiends from taking pictures of Miss Gould. During his long service he has been arrested several times for smashing cameras, but Miss Gould, of course, always gets him out of the trouble. He is a giant in stature and weight.

A certain hat manufacturer near New York has a government contract to make felt hats for the female Indians on the reservations. The hatter says that the average squaw is afflicted with "big head." The size for the average white woman's hat is 6%; the largest generally 6%. The size ordered by the government for the Indian women run up to 74. The greater number are 6% to 7.

Lady Henry Somerset, the English tem-

perance reformer, is now fifty-two, but

does not look her years. She has been since 1890 president of the British Women's Temperance Association, which is now the argest association of its kind in England. In 1892 she was president of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, and in 1898 held sway over 500,000 women as president of the international association. Mme. Melba, returning to Australia after sixteen years' absence, found her father, David Mitchell, suffering from a paralytic stroke. He is one of the oldest citizens of Melbourne, and was for years one of the eading contractors and builders. A strict Presbyterian, he did not altogether approve of his daughter's becoming the principal soprano in the choir of the Melbourne

Roman Catholic Cathedral, and when she developed into a prima donna he never crossed the equator to witness her triumph. An amusing story told by Sousa apropos of the rigor of Sunday observance, appears in an exchange. A little country girl very early one Monday morning took a basket of freshly-picked, dew-glistening raspberries to her family's minister. He was delighted, and said so; but he added, doubtfuily: "Er-I hope you didn't pick them yesterday-the Sabbath-my child?" "Oh! sir-this morning!" she hastily But her face grew serious as she falteringly explained: "But-they was a-growin'

all day yesterday!" Miss Etta H. Bolton, of Mobile, Ala., is one of the six women letter carriers in the United States. She is the nineteen-yearold daughter of the former carrier on the same route, and covers a distance of twenty-three miles daily, Sunday excepted. She was appointed by her father as his substitute and now performs the duties regularly. She travels in a specially constructed wagon, carrying stamps and blanks, and can perform any duty of a rural postmasand registering of letters.

Undoubtedly the most wonderful old lady in the peerage at the present time is the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn, who has passed her nintieth birthday, and whose son, the present Duke of Abercorn, was sixty-four last week. Six years ago the dowager duchess had 120 direct descendants, and since then the number creased. The dowager duchess had niftythree years of happy wedded life before her husband, the first Duke of Abercorn, died, in 1885. The venerable peeress possesses the Order of Victoria and Albert. In order to give her a legal status Mme. Patti, we are told, has taken out letters of naturalization as a British subject. This helps to augment the great diva's cosmopolitanism. She was born in Madrid, her father was a native of Sicily and her mother a native of Rome. She was brought up by an "American" stepfather in the United States, married a Frenchman and also an Italian husband before she settled down in Wales, is the wife of a Swedish nobleman, Baron Cedarstrom, and is

now a daughter of "John Bull." The women of Freeport, Ill., have finally found and will substantially mark the spot on which took place the famous Lincoln-Douglas debate. There has been an exasperating delay of over a year concerning this matter. The old-timers failed to agree as to the exact localny of this stand from which the speeches were made. Finally the corner of Douglas avenue and Mechanic street was agreed upon, and a committee of the Freeport Women's Club went to Devil's Lake, Wis., and secured a huge bowlder, which will be taken to Freeport and placed in position with fitting cere-

WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION

De tiredest people in de world is dem da

takes de most ease.-Son. Wise men cease persuading the moment they have gained consent.-The Vultures. Just once too often in his life every man's a fool for some woman.-The Things That Are Caesar's.

Mrs. Tanberry bounded across the room like a public building caught by a cyclone. -The Two Vanrevels. Be not angry with your creditors if they

importune you. It is nobler to forgive and forget them .- Her Majesty the King When a woman is past being kissed on her own account, nothing pleases her more than being kissed because of her daughter. -Confessions of a Match-making Mother. It is your widower or bachelor of over thirty-five who can cordially appreciate the woman who studies the comforts of home.-Confessions of a Match-making

There are two ways of loving-one foyous, active, sane, without questionings and without bitterness-the young and beautiful love which makes life charming and is its recompense. The other sardo

agitated, complaining, more full of tears than laughter, makes its victims idle, cowardly, cruel un capricious .- Love and the

"Let me get over this difficulty somehow," says youth, "that I may play the game of life well"-and our hair is turning

gray before we learn that the difficulty is

the game.-The Way of Escape.

VIRTUE IN WALL STREET.

Said to Exist There and Honesty to Be Rule of Conduct.

New York Mail and Express. A man who has gone to business in the Wall-street district every business day with some bitterness. "I can't show you an X- in the year for thirty years, with the exception of six weeks' vacation every summer, chatted to an old friend who had come over a thousand miles to visit him, along this line:

"When you telegraphed me you were coming I watched the calendar until saw you. Your coming cast no shadow before. I remember some fifteen or twenty years ago when I used to dread opening your letters, as well as those of other whom I knew. I do not think we realized then how uncertain our business methods were. Every mail brought a lamentation from some quarter. At one time I remember we were carrying nearly 1,000 cusomers, whose combined profits would not have enriched an ice-cream festival. The mails became too slow, and we looked to the wires for reports of failures.

"I am not as optimistic as some of my friends. I still believe that some must watch while some must sleep. But it is something to have lived to see the time when I am not afraid to open my mail. There will always be unfortunate speculations. There will always be notes to pay or protest, and mortgages to burn of foreclose, and receivers to be appointed. But you and I will not live long enough to see any panies such as swept over this country in our time. The business conditions of the world, the methods on which business is conducted will not permit the national depressions you and I encountered. The monetary affairs of our country have passed the stage where chicanery, sharp dealing and luck are the controlling factors, Business has been reduced to a science, and back of that is a high standard of integrity which acts as a safety valve.

"I expect to see, and I know I shall see, corporations and individuals, too, who will attempt to reach the heights by the hog path, if you will pardon a homely but the ultimate and lasting good which is to benefit the whole is to be reached only by the open highway, where every man can see just were others are engaged, and what others are doing. If I swindle you to-day there are enough combinations in feet to-morrow, if you are honest "Do you remember the times when our

teacher whote the copy for us, 'Honesty is the best policy?' He meant well. But what tommyrot that is from a business point, as business is done to-day! A man to succeed now must not be honest for policy, but honest because it is right to be "You know there used to be an unwrit-

ten law that a man was to be honest at home and in his church, and that beween the two places he neighbor and skin him. We have lived to see the time when a business man has got to be as fair with the fellow he meets in the road as he is at home. pecting any halo to be handed out; we won't see wings on anybody this side the swelling flood. But whatever differences come up in business will be adjusted in the open. I am not planning any cunning game to save my hide, but I am giving you the conclusions of a man who has made a mighty close investigation of exist-"Is that the spirit of Wall street?" asked

"It is. It is the spirit of the country." "Then I'll go back to Kansas and say to the grasshoppers, hop on, and to the cyclones, blow on-you can't scare me.'

OIL-SOAKED BRICKS AS FUEL.

Information Worth Having Even if Coal Strike Is Broken.

Christian Advocate An establishment in Baltimore is known as the Infusorial Earth Manufacturing Company. Their plant is on the Rappahannock river, in Virginia, where there is a peculiar porous earth. From this they manufacture bricks. One day last week a representative of the firm exhibited a brick twelve inches long by five inches deep and five across. This he soaked in three pints of kerosene. In a few minutes the oil was absorbed. The brick was then placed in the kitchen stove and ignited by a match. Immediately it began to flame, and for threequarters of an hour burned slowly and steadily. No finer fire for either cooking or heating could have been desired. Ordinarily three pints of oil are enough to burn for an hour. All you have to do at the end of that time is to take the brick out, rub the soot off with a piece of paper or a cloth, and soak it again in oil. It will never wear out and the brick will not burn. If it is dropped on the floor, however, it will break; but the pieces, when soaked, take up the oil in the same way, and when burned give the same results, pre-

senting the aspects of coal, . . . Francis H Whitney, Postmaster General Payne's private secretary, has tried the bricks, and found that they answer all the ourpose of a hod of coal, make a hotter fire, and leave no ashes, and on the next morning after the success of the experiment he telephoned to the Anacosta Brick Company and the Washington branch of the Standard Oil Company and ordered a cartload of porous brick and a barrel of

An amateur experimenter, taking a "porous hollow brick," whose dimensions were 8 fnches long, 3% wide and 2% thick, soaked Il. This brick burned fully forty minutes, giving a bright flame and emitting great heat. From the amount of oil he used he calculated that there was sufficient to cook a meal and heat the boller, at a cost of less than I cent. In Utica a housewife took four ordinary bricks and placed them in a pail. Over the bricks she poured a gallon of keroses and let them stand until the bricks had absorbed all of the oil they would take up. Then she placed two of the bricks in the kitchen range and set fire to them. The Utica Observer, from which we take this, says they burned fully two hours, and they made a fire by which it was possible to do any kind of cooking or other work requiring considerable heat. The woman the Observer that by the use of soaked in oil one can get along with all the cooking, washing and ironing without resort to gas. Her words are: "There is no unpleasant odor or any trouble whatever, the oil just blazed away like a stove full of good wood." . .

In Tarrytown and vicinity the plan of been found to soaking bricks in oil has work well. One-half of the families in the villages are using them. At Croton all the boarding houses are using them for cooking purposes. It is said that the finer grades of red pressed brick absorb more oil and allow it to burn more evenly than the commoner kind.

Precocious Children.

"Pater Familias" in Good Housekeeping. A fond mother came to me the other day in high glee to say that at twelve her boy would be ready for the high school, at sixteen he would be in college, and at twenty-"he will be ruined for life," I added somewhat brutally. The remark was put in that way to emphasize the idea that a boy who does nothing but study until he is twenty usually has a mind stuffed with theory, a body lacking in vigor and a will power wanting in purpose because all this educa-tion has failed to bring out his natural bent or special capacity in some one line, along which he would be certain to achieve

Well, what would you do with such a precoclous boy?" the mother persisted. Let m finish the grammar school this winter, turn him loose on a farm next summer, preferably where he will have a certain amount of work to do, then let him get a job (preferably away from home) in a ountry printing office, where in consideration of little pay or no wages he will be taught to do everything. "A year of this life, better two, will give your boy the practical experience and an all-round view of life, a touch with men and affairs, together with a working knowledge of the English language and a physical development that will be the best possible basis for further education and fitting for life."

What Hill Should Do.

If I were David Bennett Hill ("Dave" Bennett Hill, "Dave" If I were David Bennett Hill

I'll tell you what I'd do. 'd crawl into an auger hole (An auger hole, a gimlet hole!) I'd crawl into a small coal hol And pull the hole in, too!

-New York Tribune